

**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION III FACULTY ATHLETICS REPRESENTATIVE  
ADVISORY GROUP  
DECEMBER 8, 2020, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Approval of report from September 8, 2020 teleconference.** The report was approved.
2. **Discussion of the Countable Season of Participation and Use of Semester/Quarter Requirements Waiver.** NCAA staff provided a summary of and additional context for the Division III Management Council recommendation and Division III Presidents approval of a blanket waiver to allow all NCAA Division III student-athletes to compete up to the established dates of competition/contest maximums without being charged a season of intercollegiate participation during the 2020-21 academic year. In response, the advisory group voiced support for the blanket waiver citing the opportunity and flexibility it provides for Division III student-athletes given the unprecedented pandemic-related circumstances.

The group noted the following related to future implications of the waiver:

- Group consensus was a limited number of student-athletes would use the waiver. Based on discussions on their campuses and in their conferences with student-athletes, at this time there appears to be little interest in using the waiver.
- For those student-athletes interested in using the waiver, the group highlighted the need for careful and deliberate advising by athletics and institution administrators and noted the opportunity for Faculty Athletics Representatives to facilitate and assist in these cases.
- The group detailed circumstances that could complicate the use of the waiver. The waiver upholds that student-athletes using the waiver must be enrolled full-time during current and future academic years. Given the multitude of COVID-related interruptions, suspensions and changes to grading and credit-accumulation models, as well as the expansion of online curriculum delivery on campuses throughout the Division III membership, the group noted the potential complexities for campus and NCAA national office compliance officers in confirming full-time enrollment. These complexities extend to the student-

athletes who will be making these decisions in a rapidly changing and uncertain environment.

3. **Update on staff support for Division III.** NCAA staff updated the group on the Division III impact of mandatory staff furloughs and staff decisions to take early retirement and voluntary separation.
4. **Update on 2021 NCAA Convention.** NCAA staff updated the group on 2021 NCAA Convention scheduling and logistics.
5. **Other Business.**
  - It was noted that the next quarterly meeting will be held March 9, 2020 at 2 p.m. Eastern.
  - This meeting was the last for Michael Litz, the Division III Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) representative. Michael's term on SAAC concludes in January. The group thanked Michael for his service.
6. **Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

*Advisory Group Chair: Hope Bussenius, Emory University*

*Staff Liaison: Eric Hartung, Research*

NCAA DIVISION III FACULTY ATHLETICS REPRESENTATIVE ADVISORY GROUP SEPTEMBER 8, 2020	
Attendees	Absentees
Kurt Beron, University of Texas, Dallas	Charles Brown, Penn State, Behrend
Hope Bussenius, Emory University	
Judy Hopp, University of Wisconsin, Stout	
Mike Litz, Penn State, Abington	
Wanda Rutledge, New Jersey City University	
Mike Snyder, Illinois College	
Kim Wenger, Northwest Conference	
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:	
Eric Hartung	